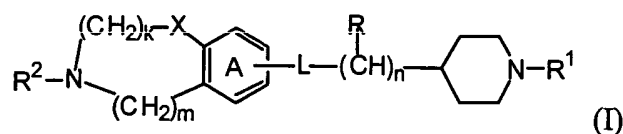


In the Claims

Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice to the filing of future continuing applications.

Please substitute the following claims 12, 14 and 17 for the claims 12, 14 and 17 now pending in the above-identified application.

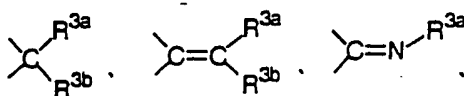
1. (Previously Amended) A compound represented by the formula:



wherein ring A represents benzene ring optionally having a further substituent,

-L- represents -O-, -NR^{3a}-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -SO₂NR^{3a}-, -SO₂NHCONR^{3a}-,

-SO₂NHC(=NH)NR^{3a}-, -C(=S)-,



or -CONR^{3a}-

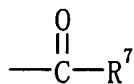
wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} represent independently hydrogen atom, cyano group,

hydroxy group, amino group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group,

n represents an integer of 0 to 6,

R is hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent, and may be different in repetition of n,

R¹ represents a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent or a group represented by the formula:



wherein R⁷ represents a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent,

R² represents hydrogen atom, an acyl group, a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent or a heterocyclic group optionally having a substituent,

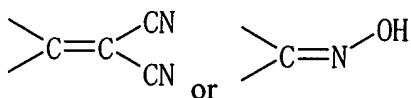
X represents a bond,

k and m are each independently an integer of 0 to 4 and $k + m = 4$,

or a salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein n is an integer of 1 to 6.

3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein -L- is -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -CH₂-, -CHOH-,



4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X is a bond and $k=m=2$.

5. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X is a bond, $k=3$ and $m=1$.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R is hydrogen atom.

8. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein n is an integer of 2 to 4

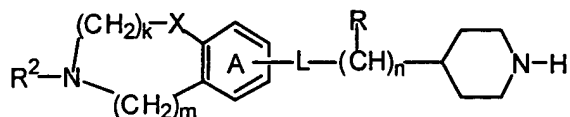
9. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is a C₇₋₁₆ aralkyl group optionally having a substituent.

10. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R² is a C₇₋₁₆ aralkyl group optionally having a substituent.
11. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R is hydrogen atom, n is an integer of 2 to 4, and R¹ and R² are benzyl group optionally having a substituent.
12. (Currently Amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of
- C2
- 2-[(2-methylphenyl)methyl]-7-[2-[1-[[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
- 2-[(2-methylphenyl)methyl]-8-[2-[1-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
- 3-[1-(phenylmethyl)]-4-piperidinyl]-1-[3-(phenylmethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine-7-yl]-1-propanone oxime,
- 2-[1-[3-(phenylmethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine-7-yl]-3-[1-(phenylmethyl)-4-piperidinyl]propylidene]malononitrile,
- 3-(phenylmethyl)-7-[[2-[1-(phenylmethyl)-4-piperidinyl]ethyl]sulfanyl]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine,
- 7-[[2-[1-[(2-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethyl]sulfinyl]-3-(phenylmethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine,
- 7-[[2-[1-[(4-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethyl]sulfinyl]-3-(phenylmethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine,
- 7-[[2-[1-[(3-chlorophenyl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethyl]sulfonyl]-3-(phenylmethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine,

8-[3-[1-[[3-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]propoxy]-2-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
4-[[4-[2-[[2-[(2-methylphenyl)methyl]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine-8-yl]oxy]ethyl]-1-piperidinyl]methyl]-1-benzenecarboxyimidamide,
8-[2-[1-[[4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2-[(2-methylphenyl)methyl]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
2-(phenylmethyl)-8-[2-[1-[[4-(N,N-diethylaminomethyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
2-[(2-methylphenyl)methyl]-8-[2-[1-[[3-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
2-[(2-methylphenyl)methyl]-8-[2-[1-[4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)benzoyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
2-(phenylmethyl)-7-[[1-[[4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]methoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
2-(phenylmethyl)-8-[[1-[[4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]methoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
2-(phenylmethyl)-8-[2-[1-[[4-(4,5-dihydro-1H-2-imidazolyl)phenyl]methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
and 2-(phenylmethyl)-8-[2-[1-[(4-dimethylaminophenyl)methyl]-4-piperidinyl]ethoxy]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-2-benzazepine,
or a salt thereof.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A process for producing the compound according to claim 1, which comprises reacting a compound represented by the formula:



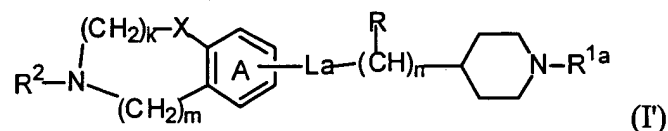
wherein respective symbols represent the same meanings as those for claim 1 or a salt thereof

with a compound represented by the formula: R^1Z^1 R^1-Z^1

wherein Z^1 represents a leaving group and R^1 represents the same meaning as that for claim 1 or a salt thereof.

C2

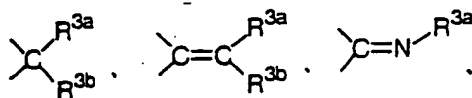
15. (Previously Amended) A compound represented by the formula:



wherein ring A represents benzene ring optionally having a further substituent,

-La- represents $-NR^{3a}-$, $-S-$, $-SO-$, $-SO_2-$, $-SO_2NR^{3a}-$, $-SO_2NHCONR^{3a}-$,

$-SO_2NHC(=NH)NR^{3a}-$, $-C(=S)-$,



or $-CONR^{3a}-$

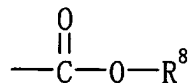
wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} represent independently hydrogen atom, cyano group,

hydroxy group, amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group,

n represents an integer of 0 to 6,

R is hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent, and may be different in repetition of n,

R^{1a} represents hydrogen atom or a group represented by the formula:



wherein R⁸ represents a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent,

R² represents hydrogen atom, an acyl group, a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent or a heterocyclic group optionally having a substituent,

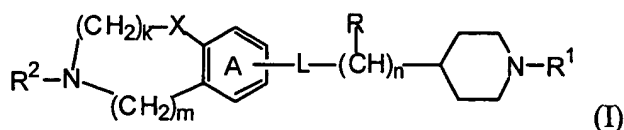
X represents a bond,

k and m are each independently an integer of 0 to 4 and k + m = 4,

or a salt thereof.

16. (Cancelled)

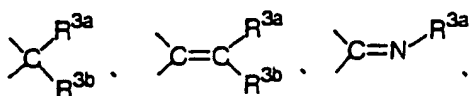
17. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound represented by the formula:



wherein ring A represents benzene ring optionally having a further substituent,

-L- represents -O-, -NR^{3a}-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -SO₂NR^{3a}-, -SO₂NHCONR^{3a}-,

-SO₂NHC(=NH)NR^{3a}-, -C(=S)-,



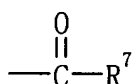
or -CONR^{3a}-

wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} represent independently hydrogen atom,
cyano group, hydroxy group, amino group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl
group or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group,

n represents an integer of 0 to 6,

R is hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent, and
may be different in repetition of n,

R¹ represents a hydrocarbon group optionally having a substituent or a group
represented by the formula:



wherein R⁷ represents a hydrocarbon group optionally having a
substituent,

R² represents hydrogen atom, an acyl group, a hydrocarbon group optionally
having a substituent or a heterocyclic group optionally having a
substituent,

X represents a bond,

k and m are each independently an integer of 0 to 4 and k + m = 4,

or a salt thereof ~~or a prodrug thereof~~

and a pharmacologically acceptable carrier.

Claims 18-21 (Cancelled).

22. (Original) A method for treating obesity and obesity-based diseases, which comprises administering an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 to a mammal.

Claims 23-42 (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Added) A method for promoting thermal production in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1 to said mammal.

44. (Previously Added) A method for promoting lipolysis in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound or salt thereof according to claim 1 to said mammal.
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